PATENT
1190-0532P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroaki SUGIURA et al.   Conf.:   1204

Appl. No.:   09/994,761   Group: 2622

Filed: November 28, 2001   Examiner: UNASSIGNED

For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND IMAGE
             PROCESSING SYSTEM

#4

5-5-02

L E T T E R

Assistant Commissioner for Patents   April 17, 2002
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Under the provisions of MPEP § 2001.06(b), the Examiner is

hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. Application(s):

Appl. No.	Filing Date	Group
09/457,703	December 9, 1999	2721
09/627,058	July 27, 2000	2775

The subject matter contained in the above-listed co-pending

U.S. application(s) may be deemed to relate to the present

application, and thus may be material to the prosecution of this

instant application.

Copies of cited U.S. patent application(s) (specification,

claims, and the drawings) or copies of the portion of the

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application which caused it to be cited, including any claims

directed to that portion are attached hereto.

☐ The materials in the envelope are considered trade

secrets and are being submitted for consideration under MPEP § 724.
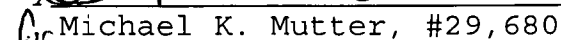
The above-listed co-pending application(s) is(are) not to be

construed as prior art. By bringing the above-listed application(s)

to the attention of the Examiner, Applicant(s) do(does) NOT waive

any confidentiality concerning the above-listed co-pending

application(s) or this application. See MPEP § 101. Furthermore,

if said application(s) should not mature into patents, such

application(s) should be preserved in secrecy under the provisions

of 35 U.S.C. § 122 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.14.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this,

concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee

required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension

of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By _____

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(Rev. 11/02/01)

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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /SE/